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1975/04/11

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~~SECRET~~ T/SENSITIVE 111600Z APRIL 1975 EYES ONLY

VIA MARTIN CHANNEL
SAIGON 0605 IMMEDIATE
DELIVER IMMEDIATELY
APRIL 11, 1975
TO: SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: AMBASSADOR GRAHAM MARTIN
REF: WH 50657

1. YOUR MESSAGE DID GIVE ME A SLIGHT PAUSE UNTIL I RECEIVED THE STATE CABLE WHICH TAGGED THE FIGURE OF 1250 TO AMERICAN OFFICIAL COMMUNITY. IF YOU CAN EXPEDITE THE AUTHORITIES OUTLINED IN THE EMBASSY'S REPLY TO THE STATE CABLE WE CAN MOVE VERY RAPIDLY TO MEET THE GOAL.

2. MY "STRONG VIEWS" HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN MISINTERPRETED. I HAVE NEVER OBJECTED TO OUR RAPID DRAWDOWN. I DID HAVE "STRONG VIEWS" ABOUT DOING IT IN A WAY WHICH WOULD NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO U.S. POLICY, AND, ABOVE ALL, WHICH WOULD NOT HAVE GUARANTEED THAT SOME OF OUR AMERICANS WERE KILLED IN THE WHOLLY UNNECESSARY PANIC WHICH WOULD HAVE ENSUED. WE LOST NO AMERICANS IN THE MOVE OUT OF DANANG AND NHATRANG EXCEPT THOSE TAKEN IN BAN ME THUOT IN THE SURPRISE ATTACK ON WHICH WE HAD NO INTELLIGENCE. I DON'T INTEND TO LOSE ANY HERE. IF I CONTINUE TO HAVE YOUR SUPPORT,

3. WHEN I SAW THIEU, HE WAS UNHAPPY ABOUT THE DRAWDOWN BUT I SAID IT WAS NECESSARY AND WE WENT ON TO TALK OF OTHER THINGS ABOUT WHICH I WILL REPORT SEPARATELY TOMORROW.

4. YOU KNEW DAMN WELL YOU AND THE PRESIDENT CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON ME.

5. AND IF THERE IS A MASSIVE FOLLOW-THROUGH ON THE HILL ON THE PRESIDENT'S REQUEST, WE WON'T LOSE THE COUNTRY EITHER.

6. HARK REGARDS.
250



*****HRSR COMMENT*****

HAK, SCORCROFT, MCFARLANE, RODMAN

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TOR: 101/16:56Z DTG: 111600Z APR 75

~~SECRET~~

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